Minutes of the Human Rights Commission meeting January 19, 2022 Via Zoom

Commissioners present:

Kathy Wicks, Susan MacDonald, Deidre Cuffee-Gray, Wren Bellavance-Grace, Megan Paik

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. There was no public comment.

Motion to approve minutes of December 2021 by Commissioner Wicks, seconded by Commissioner Paik. No discussion or corrections. Approved unanimously.

Discussion:

Commissioner Bellavance-Grace will email the flyers of the event and virtual art exhibit to city councilors. Commissioner Paik will share the virtual art exhibit info with the school community. In November, commissioners had rescheduled our February meeting to the second Wednesday to not conflict with the inaugural Housing as a Human Right event. Since the event has been scheduled to the 9th, Commissioners agreed to keep the February 16 monthly meeting date. A small honorarium will be paid by Forbes Library to each of the panelists. The organizers are already preliminarily brainstorming around future events. Commissioner Wicks will ask Dir. Downing about any prepared questions for panelists, format for Q&A, and an event mailing list. The facilitator could prompt the speakers to offer a "call to action" after the presentations. This call could generate some topics for future events; one possible speaker is Wayne Feiden. HRC will end the event with thanks to the organizers from Forbes Library and invite the audience to learn about the mission and openings on the HRC.

New Business:

Commissioner Bellavance-Grace explained the opportunity for a HRC commissioner to serve on the city's annual CDBG public service grants committee which awards grants totaling \sim \$100K to a small number of local direct service agencies. The first of three meetings is on January 24; the committee is comprised of six members including city councilors and chairs of boards and commissions. Commissioner Paik will step in for Commissioner Bellavance-Grace this year.

Commissioner Paik moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Cuffee-Gray at 7:14 p.m.